

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**Call to Order:** Chair Seth Berglee, on March 10, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 137 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. Seth Berglee, Chair (R)  
Rep. Jeff Essmann, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Moffie Funk, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Jacob Bachmeier (D)  
Rep. Becky Beard (R)  
Rep. Amanda Curtis (D)  
Rep. Edward Greef (R)  
Rep. Jean Price (D)  
Rep. Casey Schreiner (D)  
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)  
Rep. Scott Staffanson (R)  
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)  
Rep. Peggy Webb (R)  
Rep. Susan Webber (D)

##### **Members Excused:**

Rep. Fred Anderson (R)  
Rep. Bryce Bennett (D)  
Rep. Greg Hertz (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jessica Riffel, Committee Secretary  
Laura Sankey Keip, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

##### **Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 390, 3/7/2017; SB 6, 3/7/2017; SB 234, 3/7/2017  
Executive Action: SB 6

**HEARING ON SB 6****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:21 Sen. Jennifer Fielder (R), SD 7, opened the hearing on SB 6, Remove redundant language from tribal college reimbursement statute.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:04:00 Sen. Fielder

**HEARING ON SB 234****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:04:59 Sen. Mary Caferro (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 234, Expedite teacher licensure for military spouses.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:05:57 Roger Hagan, American Legion, Montana National Guard Association (MTNGA)

00:06:14 Rep. B. Bennett joined the meeting

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:07:00 Marco Ferro, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:08:12 Rep. Beard

00:08:31 Sen. Caferro

00:09:01 Rep. Curtis

00:09:37 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT

00:10:36 Rep. Vinton

00:11:15 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT

00:12:31 Laura Sankey Keip, Legislative Services Division

00:13:03 Recessed

00:17:31 Reconvened with Rep. Staffanson excused

00:17:35 Chair Berglee

00:19:12 Sen. Caferro

00:20:05 Rep. Price

00:20:24 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT

00:21:12 Rep. Price

00:21:29 Sen. Caferro  
00:22:08 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
00:23:19 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT  
00:23:31 Chair Berglee  
00:24:13 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT  
00:24:28 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
00:24:44 Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT  
00:25:28 Rep. Vinton  
00:25:40 Sen. Caferro

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:26:39 Sen. Caferro

**HEARING ON HB 390****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:27:28 Rep. Donald Jones (R), HD 46, opened the hearing on HB 390, Generally revise school funding laws.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:28:33 Siri Smillie, Governor's Office

**[EXHIBIT\(edh50a01\)](#)**

00:33:54 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)  
00:38:39 Russ Hendrickson, Missoula County Public Schools (MCPS) Montana  
Educational Technologists Association (META)  
00:41:57 Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA)  
00:47:21 Jenny Stapp, Montana State Library  
00:48:13 Jeff Crews, Woodman School  
00:51:28 John Bemis, Century Link  
00:56:31 Mark Baker, Charter Communications  
00:57:57 Kirk Miller, School Administrators of Montana (SAM)  
01:01:08 Dennis Parman, Montana Rural Education Association (MREA)  
01:03:20 Marco Ferro, Montana Education Association-Montana Federation of Teachers  
(MEA-MFT)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:04:13 Mike Waterman, Bozeman School Districts (BSD)

**[EXHIBIT\(edh50a02\)](#)****Informational Testimony:**

01:12:38 Jennifer Olson, Department of Commerce (COM)  
01:13:18 Paul Taylor, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)  
01:13:39 Andrew Kenny, Education Super Highway

**[EXHIBIT\(edh50a03\)](#)****Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:16:28 Rep. Beard  
01:17:59 Jennifer Olsen, COM  
01:18:17 Rep. Beard

01:18:54 Kirk Miller, SAM  
01:20:35 Rep. Schreiner  
01:21:10 Andrew Kenny, Education Super Highway  
01:26:01 Rep. Price  
01:27:14 Mike Waterman, BSD  
01:27:44 Rep. Price  
01:28:19 Rep. D. Jones  
01:28:57 Rep. Essmann  
01:31:35 Geoff Feiss, MTA  
01:32:56 Rep. Greef  
01:34:22 Jeff Crews, Woodman School  
01:36:12 Rep. Vinton  
01:38:35 Mike Waterman, BSD  
01:39:23 Rep. P. Webb  
01:41:37 Lance Melton, MTSBA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:42:39 Rep. D. Jones

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 6**

01:44:49 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Essmann moved that **SB 6 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Anderson, Rep. G. Hertz and Rep. Staffanson voted by proxy. Rep. Greef will carry the bill.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 01:46:03

---

Jessica Riffel, Secretary

jr

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([edh50aad.pdf](#))